

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5                   1. In a short message service center, a module for  
permitting automatic status tracking of a wireless chat participant by an  
application external to a service provider including said short message  
service center, a message handler comprising:
- a registration notification message receiver; and  
                    a registration notification message forwarder to forward a  
10 registration notification message received by a mobile switching center  
over an Internet connection.
2. In a short message service center, a module for  
permitting automatic status tracking of a wireless chat participant by an  
15 application external to a service provider including said short message  
service center, a handler according to claim 1, wherein:  
                    said internet connection utilizes a TCP/IP protocol.
3. In a short message service center, a module for  
20 permitting automatic status tracking of a wireless chat participant by an  
application external to a service provider including said short message  
service center, a handler according to claim 1, wherein:  
                    said registration notification message forwarder copies all  
registration notification messages received by said mobile switching  
25 center.

4. In a short message service center, a module for permitting automatic status tracking of a wireless chat participant by an application external to a service provider including said short message service center, a handler according to claim 1, further comprising:

5 a wireless Internet gateway to transmit said forwarded notification message over said Internet connection.

5. In a short message service center, a module for permitting automatic status tracking of a wireless chat participant by an application external to a service provider including said short message service center, a handler according to claim 4, wherein:

said registration notification message handler communicates with said wireless Internet gateway using a Signaling System #7 communications protocol.

6. In a short message service center, a module for permitting automatic status tracking of a wireless chat participant by an application external to a service provider including said short message service center, a handler according to claim 1, wherein:

said registration notification message is previously forwarded by a Home Location Register (HLR).

7. In a short message service center, a module for permitting automatic status tracking of a wireless chat participant by an application external to a service provider including said short message service center, a message handler comprising:

an MSInactivity message receiver; and

an MSInactivity message forwarder to forward an MSInactivity message received by a mobile switching center over an Internet connection.

8. In a short message service center, a module for permitting automatic status tracking of a wireless chat participant by an application external to a service provider including said short message service center, a handler according to claim 7, wherein:

said internet connection utilizes a TCP/IP protocol.

9. In a short message service center, a module for permitting automatic status tracking of a wireless chat participant by an application external to a service provider including said short message service center, a handler according to claim 7, wherein:

said MSInactivity message forwarder copies all MSInactivity messages received by said mobile switching center.

10. In a short message service center, a module for permitting automatic status tracking of a wireless chat participant by an application external to a service provider including said short message service center, a handler according to claim 7, further comprising:

a wireless Internet gateway to transmit said forwarded MSInactivity message over said Internet connection.

11. In a short message service center, a module for permitting automatic status tracking of a wireless chat participant by an application external to a service provider including said short message service center, a handler according to claim 10, wherein:

said MSInactivity message handler communicates with said wireless Internet gateway using a Signaling System #7 communications protocol.

12. In a short message service center, a module for permitting automatic status tracking of a wireless chat participant by an application external to a service provider including said short message service center, a handler according to claim 7, wherein:

5           said MSInactivity message is previously forwarded by a Home Location Register (HLR).

13. A method for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant, comprising:

10           receiving an IS-41 conforming registration notification message from a mobile switching center; and

                  automatically forwarding said IS-41 conforming registration notification message over an Internet connection to an external chat server.

15           14. The method for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 13, wherein:

20           said registration notification message is a REGNOT message.

15           15. The method for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 13, wherein:

25           said Internet connection utilizes a TCP/IP protocol.

16. The method for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 13, wherein:

5 said registration notification message is additionally forwarded by an SMSC.

17. The method for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 13, further comprising:

10 automatically adding a user corresponding to said automatically forwarded registration notification message to a chat session.

18. The method for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 17, further comprising:

automatically notifying other chat participants regarding a presence of the automatically added user.

19. The method for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 17, further comprising:

automatically sending a list of chat participants to said user.

20. The method for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 13, wherein:

said registration notification message is signaling system #7 and IS-41 compliant.

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21. The method for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 13, wherein:

said registration notification message is IS-41 compliant.

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22. Apparatus for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant, comprising:

means for receiving an IS-41 conforming registration notification message from a mobile switching center; and

10 means for automatically forwarding said IS-41 conforming registration notification message over an Internet connection to an external chat server.

23. The apparatus for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 22, wherein:

said registration notification message is a REGNOT message.

24. The apparatus for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 22, wherein:

said Internet connection utilizes a TCP/IP protocol.

25. The apparatus for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 22, further comprising:

means for forwarding said registration notification message by an SMSC to said means for automatically forwarding.

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26. The apparatus for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 22, further comprising:

5 means for automatically adding a user corresponding to said automatically forwarded registration notification message to a chat session.

27. The apparatus for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 10 26, further comprising:

means for automatically notifying other chat participants regarding a presence of the automatically added user.

28. The apparatus for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 15 26, further comprising:

means for automatically sending a list of chat participants to said user.

29. The apparatus for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 20 22, wherein:

said registration notification message is signaling system #7 and IS-41 compliant.

30. The apparatus for automatically notifying an external chat server of a presence of a chat session participant according to claim 25 22, wherein:

said registration notification message is IS-41 compliant.

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automatically forwarding said IS-41 conforming MSInactivity message over an Internet connection to an external chat server. .

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